



New Mexico
**Department of Finance
and Administration**

**Infrastructure Planning
and Development Division**

September Newsletter

Leadership Lens

*Insights and perspectives from
IPDD leadership*



Dear Stakeholders,

As we begin the first quarter of fiscal year 2026, I'm reflecting on the progress we've made together in fiscal year 2025 and looking forward to the exciting opportunities ahead.

First and foremost, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your continued dedication and engagement with the newly created Infrastructure Planning and Development Division (IPDD). Over the past year, we have created a strategic plan for the division, team policies and procedures, and decisive work plans for our bureaus (3) and teams (2). Our division has grown to over 20 team members in just one year.

As a division, our commitment to expertly managing the planning and reporting process for all capital outlay projects includes providing technical assistance and grant management assistance and ensuring infrastructure projects are fully funded through various appropriations and financing mechanisms. We are also actively working on developing a new streamlined capital planning, funding, grants management and reporting system, and I encourage you to stay informed and involved as updates to this system are rolled out over the next quarter and fiscal year. Your active participation and

willingness to contribute is what makes our efforts thrive. I'm particularly pleased with the outcome of the Match Fund program as well as the implementation of our Amplifund system. The Match Fund program provides matching funds and technical assistance for federal grant opportunities and the Amplifund system helps streamline that process, in addition to providing a federal grants management platform.

Looking ahead, we will be focusing on rolling out this new capital system, providing training, and enhancing the system as we get feedback from you, the users. Our goal is to generate more accurate reporting on capital projects throughout the state as well as help users better streamline and track their capital projects. We will also be exploring new ways to enhance user benefits and provide valuable public facing resources and information.

I believe that by working together, we can achieve even greater success in the coming year. I am optimistic about our future and excited to see what we can accomplish as a community.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Wesley Billingsley
Director, Infrastructure Planning & Development Division

Capital Planning and Policy Bureau Updates

Capital Connect Hub

The Capital Connect Hub is a monthly training series designed to foster a community of practice for public sector professionals working on capital infrastructure projects. The event convenes state agency, tribal, county, and municipal staff to share funding strategies, project management best practices, and stakeholder engagement approaches.



The 2025 spring series wrapped up with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Survey results showed strong satisfaction with content relevance and practical applicability to daily work. Case studies and networking opportunities were particularly well received, while sessions on funding strategies and capital stacking proved most valuable. Participants also appreciated the peer-to-peer connections and collaborative learning environment.

Looking ahead to the fall relaunch, we are exploring improvements based on your feedback, including enhanced breakout session technology, alternative hosting platforms for smoother collaboration, streamlined case studies for better engagement, expanded focus on rural community needs and mentoring, and potential legislative perspectives from House Appropriations and Senate Finance leadership. The fall series will continue building on our strong foundation while addressing areas for improvement. Stay tuned for registration details and an updated session lineup designed to further strengthen our community's capital projects.

The first series of Rural and Frontier Capacity Building Training Sessions is in the books. We would like to thank everyone who attended! The Series I training sessions were a collaboration between the Office of the State Auditor, Local Government Division of DFA, Infrastructure Planning and Development Division and the Council of Governments.

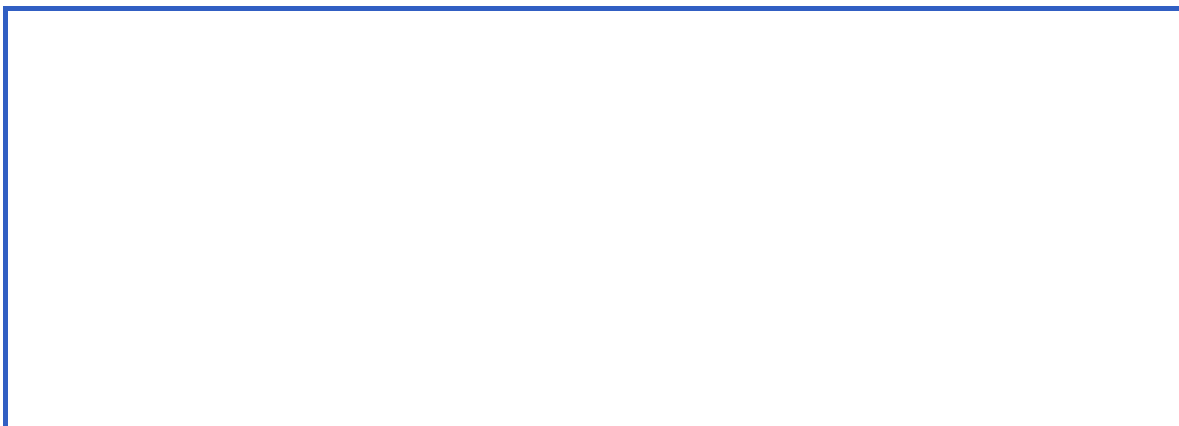


Rural and frontier communities were the target audience, and the intent of the training was to help entities gain a better understanding of NM audit processes and requirements, capital outlay and reporting, funding navigation assistance, Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plans, and local government budget reporting requirements.

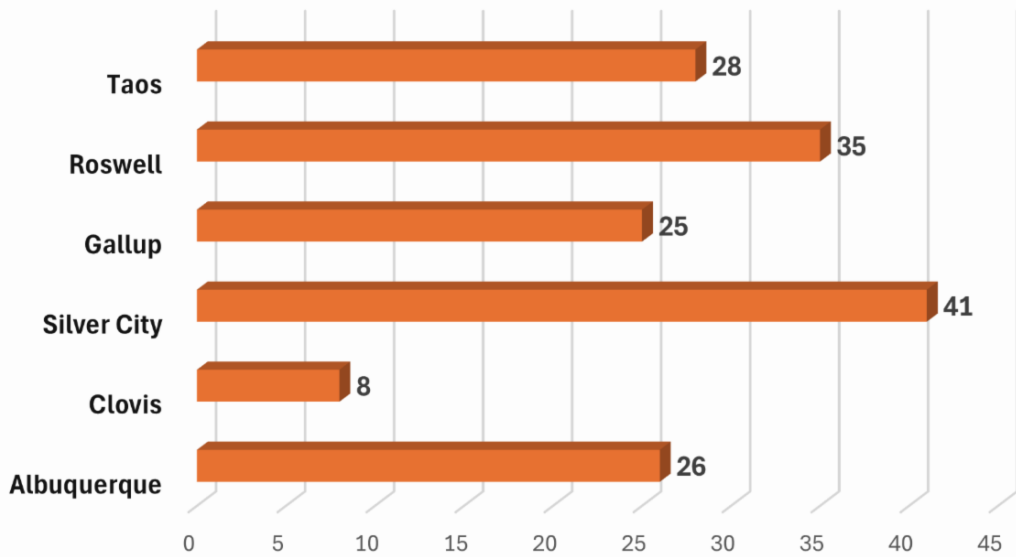
Trainings were held in person in 6 different locations throughout the state. This gave the attendees and the trainers a chance to interact face to face and build stronger relationships. In total, 163 individuals attended the trainings.

We are currently working on the second training series, which will take place this fall, will include the NM Department of Justice and DFA's Infrastructure Planning and Development Division, Local Government Division and State Board of Finance. Topics will include Open Meetings Act, Inspection of Public Records Act and the new capital project system improvements implemented by DFA's Local Government and Infrastructure Divisions

Flyers for the Series II trainings will be available on [our website soon](#), we hope to see your entity at the next training series.



of Attendees by Training Location



New Capital Fund Provides Additional Opportunities

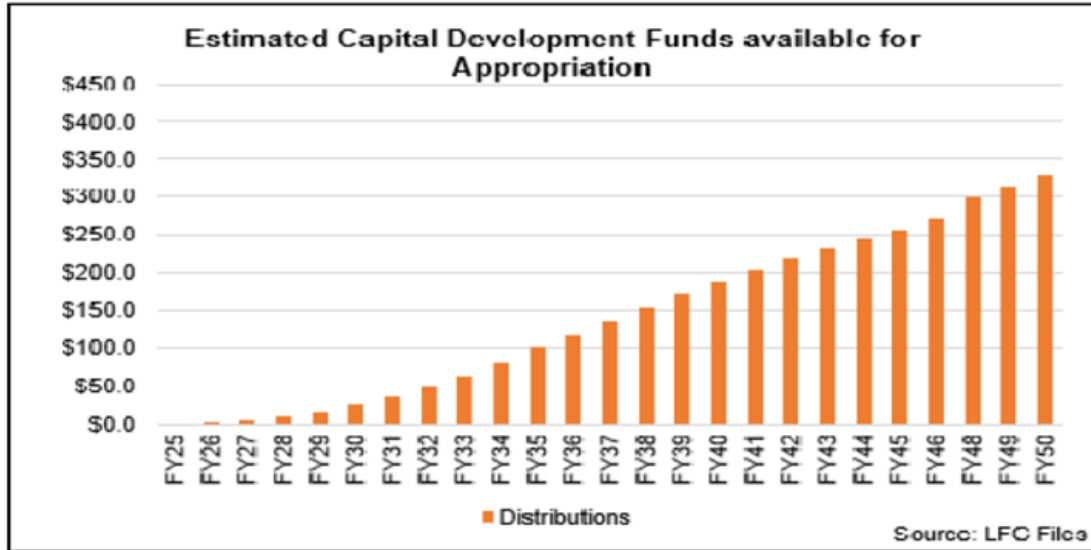
The Capital Development Program Fund, (CDPF), House Bill 253, was passed by the Legislature in 2024, and signed by the Governor which established this transformative funding mechanism for capital outlay throughout the state. It provides a reliable and stable funding source for infrastructure projects to support communities small and large. The fund will distribute over \$300M annually, (see graph), for projects in New Mexico.

In 2025 the Legislature appropriated \$24M for DFA to assist local entities with the completion of existing projects. The application for this phase of CDPF funds closed on August 31, 2025, and initial review of the applications will take place by September 15th. All entities will be notified of award decisions by October 15th.

Applications for the next funding cycle, estimated to be around \$26M, will open on October 1, 2025. These funds are specified for projects with a total cost of under \$5M or for the planning and design phase of projects in any amount.

After applications are received, they will be reviewed and scored by DFA and sent to the Legislative Finance Committee for review. Approved projects will be included in the capital outlay bill in the 2026 session. Unlike traditional capital outlay, the CDPF allocation will be available, immediately, as soon as the Governor signs off on the legislation.

A training webinar will be held in early October for entities interested in applying for the grant funds.



Introducing the New Capital Infrastructure Management System

This fall, DFA is launching a new, comprehensive capital infrastructure management system, **CAPS**, Capital Project System for all local public bodies and state agencies. This new system will combine several existing websites into one. The new design streamlines access for entities to submit their ICIPs, complete capital appropriation reporting, and provides access for capital navigation assistance. We are eager to complete the final touches on our new system to create access to a modern system that is easier to navigate and user-friendly.

Users will no longer be required to enter data in multiple sites, to plan and manage capital projects. The new system will be released in stages, with the ICIP module available the week of September 2nd. IPDD staff will let you know once the new system is ready so you can set up your accounts, test the system, review your ICIP, and attend the virtual training on

Wednesday, September 10th from 2-4 PM.

[Click to join Zoom Meeting](#)

**WEDS, SEPTEMBER 10
2:00-4:00 PM**



CAPS Training

Capital Projects System



CAPS is the new module that replaces the existing ICIP and CPMS websites. Please join us for a demonstration of CAPS.

Presentation will be recorded.

VIRTUAL (ZOOM)



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT
scott.wright@dfa.nm.gov
 505-919-9038



Local Entity ICIPs Submission Sees Growth!

The Capital Planning and Policy Bureau extends their thanks to all of the local governments around the state who submitted their Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) during this year's cycle! Last year's cycle yielded 489 ICIP submissions and this year the number increased to 525.

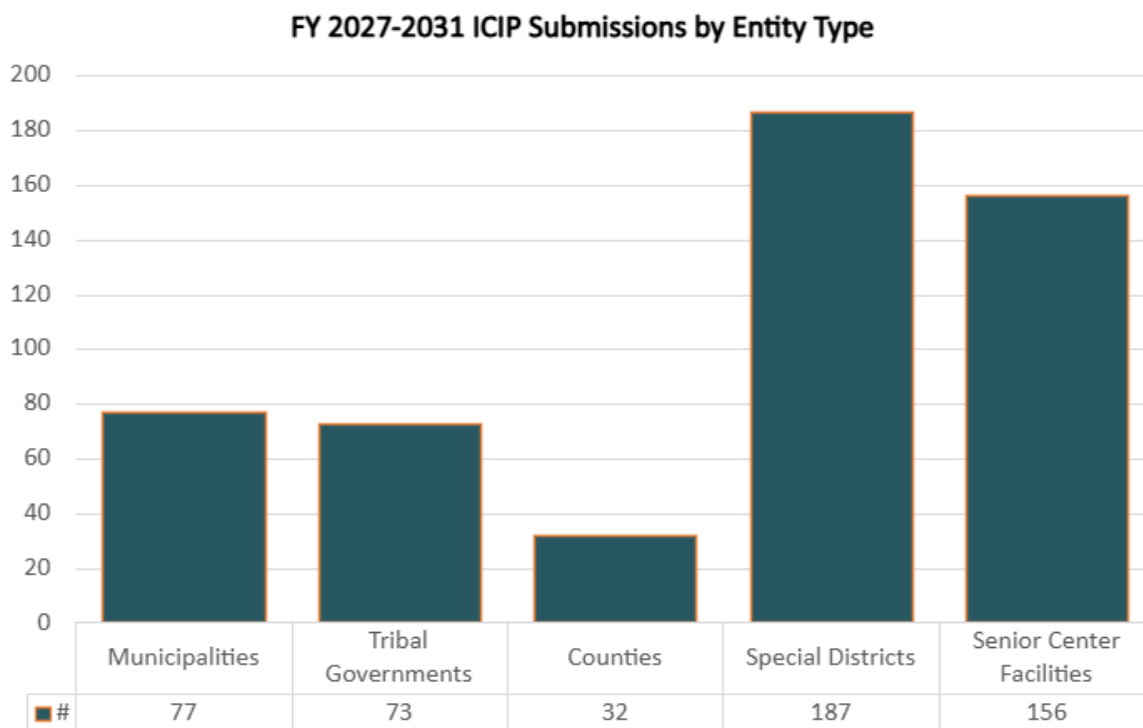
The ICIP is a planning tool administered by DFA to assist local governments and state agencies in establishing priorities for anticipated infrastructure needs in communities across the state including counties, municipalities, Nations, Pueblos and Tribes, special districts, and senior citizen facilities. More ICIP submissions signifies better planned and mapped out infrastructure projects and consideration of project readiness as entities seek funding opportunities to complete their projects.

This year we hosted 3 virtual ICIP trainings with a total of 477 attendees. We also collaborated with the Capital Outlay Bureau at the Aging and Long-Term Services Department and the Indian Affairs Department to host two trainings directed towards Senior Center facilities and Nations, Pueblos and Tribes, respectively. Going forward, we are ecstatic about sharing the innovative ICIP website/system improvements underway and will be launching the updated ICIP website in early September. We will also host training for this new system in September.

For questions about the Local Entity ICIP, please contact maryann.maestas@dfa.nm.gov

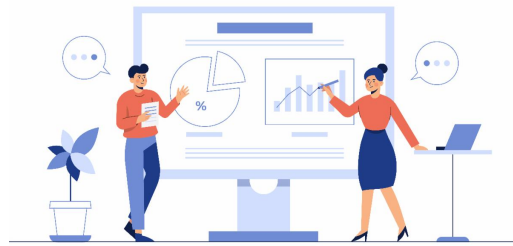
The FY 2027–2031 ICIP Submission Deadlines were:

- Senior Citizen Facilities – May 14, 2025
- Special Districts – June 13, 2025
- Tribal Governments – July 11, 2025
- Counties and Municipalities – July 11, 2025



ICYMI: ICIP Season is in Full Swing!

(ICIP) for state agencies were due on July 1, 2025. September 19, 2025, is the next big deadline when presentation materials are due for the ICIP Hearings. Agencies are given a reserved time to present their capital requests during the hearings, which are scheduled for October 15th – 17th. The presentations will be limited to 10 minutes to provide ample time for Q&A.



Funding decisions will be made during the 2026 legislative session, and approved funds will be available starting in July 2026. These deadlines are important for obtaining potential project approval. If you need support preparing for your presentation, please reach out to Ryans.Serrano@dfa.nm.gov

Technical Assistance Survey for Local Entities

The Infrastructure Planning and Development Division (IPDD) is developing a technical assistance tool designed to help local entities navigate available resources. The resulting tool will contain a web-based searchable inventory of infrastructure-related technical assistance resources available to various entities in New Mexico.

Entities interested in providing their input on the current availability of technical assistance resources can complete [the survey](#) by September 5, 2025. IPDD appreciates all responses as we develop this tool.



Capital Outlay Budget Updates



FY26 Updates

SB 275 (2024 Capital Outlay Bill) and HB 505 (2023 Capital Outlay Bill) – Budget and allotments were approved and posted for 43 eligible general fund capital outlay appropriations totaling \$14,302,015. The SHARE (the state's financial book of record) budget upload was completed for this series on June 3, 2025.

HB 450 (2025 Capital Outlay Bill) – Budget and allotments were approved and posted for 1,207 eligible general fund capital outlay appropriations totaling \$709,963,874. The SHARE budget upload was completed for this series on July 9, 2025

HB 308 (2024 General Obligation Bonds) – The bond sale for these appropriations closed on July 1, 2025, and budget was approved for 88 GOB appropriations totaling \$223,629,000. The SHARE budget upload was completed for this series on August 4, 2025.

The State Board of Finance (SBOF) closed Severance Tax Bond (STB) sales for three series on July 21, 2025. The bond series are STB25A, STB25SA, and SSTB25SB. SBOF notified applicable agencies via email regarding the bond sale on July 22, 2025. If they have not already done so, state agencies need to submit a CAPBUD and corresponding SHARE budget journals to establish budget for these appropriations.

Community Development Block Grant Updates

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) 2025 Program Highlights

Earlier this year, CDBG began the rulemaking process and now has a new rule, effective July 19, 2025, which can be found here: [NMAC](#). Important changes to the rule added increased flexibility to the CDBG program so that DFA can tailor each application cycle to the current needs in the state.

The updated program requirements for 2025 CDBG cycle increased the competitiveness of the program and responded to increased infrastructure costs. The 2025 cycle had no cap on the grant amount to improve feasibility, timely completion, and reduce piecemeal funding of projects. To ensure accessibility of this funding for rural communities, the rural match requirement was removed for 2025. Lastly, all 2025 applicants were required to procure an external project administrator. This measure is designed to improve compliance and timely progression of potentially larger projects.

The deadline for the 2025 CDBG application cycle was August 19, and we received a total of 16 applications requesting a total of over \$31.8 million! The program has almost \$11 million to allocate. The next stage for the 2025 cycle will be the Application Hearing before the Community Development Council tentatively scheduled for September 25. The Allocation Meeting will follow in October. According to the new rule, the 2025 grantees will have three years to complete their projects, rather than two.

We appreciate all the 2025 applications received and thank the applicants for their work in preparing them. Look for our updates on awards later this fall!

Funding Opportunities



[Partners for Fish and](#)



Wildlife FY25

Agency: DOI – Fish and Wildlife Service

Deadline: September 30, 2025

Funding: \$15M

Overview: Helps private landowners with habitat restoration for federal trust species.

FY25 Rural Housing Preservation Grant (HPG)

Agency: USDA – Rural Housing Service

Deadline: September 4, 2025

Funding Available:

\$13,100,000

Overview: The HPG program provides funding to public agencies and nonprofit organizations to help very low- and low-income homeowners in rural areas repair and rehabilitate their homes.

Discretionary FTA Grants

Agency: Department of Transportation

Due: Varied

The Federal Transit

Administration has numerous open, competitive funding opportunities for transit programs.



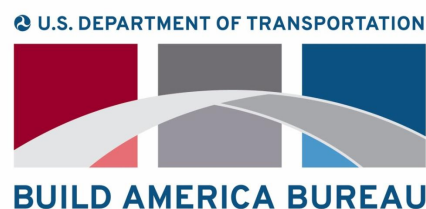
Midsize and Large Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Deadline: October 6, 2025

Funding Available: \$9,500,000

Overview: This grant program supports medium and large public water systems in protecting drinking water sources from natural hazards, extreme weather events, and cybersecurity threats. The goal is to enhance infrastructure resilience and sustainability.



Rural and Tribal Assistance (RTA) Pilot Program

Agency: U.S. Department of Transportation – Build America Bureau (Office of the Secretary for Policy)

Opportunity Number: DOT-OST-2025-103

Deadline: October 8, 2025 (portal opens September 8 at 2 p.m. ET)

Funding Available: \$54.2 million total, with a \$20 million tribal set-aside

Overview: Supports rural and Tribal communities in developing transportation infrastructure projects by funding legal, technical, and financial advisory services for early-stage planning and design. Grant amounts range from \$250,000 to \$2.5 million, and there's no local match required.

The Federal Grants Bureau will host a workshop on September 3rd. Register [here](#)

SMART Grants Collaborative Launches to Boost Statewide Impact

The Federal Grants Bureau has kicked off the SMART (*Strategic Management & Administration of Resources & Training*) Grants Collaborative — a community of practice for state agency staff who manage federal grants.

Our mission: strengthen collaboration, share knowledge and build capacity so we can better serve New Mexicans.

At our inaugural meeting in July, Monica Sanchez from the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department shared how her team successfully improved coordination between fiscal and program staff — a best practice example for other agencies.

On August 27th Dr. Anna Naruta-Moya, CGMS shared tools and standards from the statewide grants management survey and February 2025 collaborative deliverables.

At our next meeting on September 17, we'll explore the Single Point of Contact review process for federal grant applications.

The SMART Grants Collaborative is open to all state agency staff who manage or support federal grants.



[Link](#) to register for September 17th meeting

[Link](#) to be added to the SMART Grants Collaborative Teams Channel

Trainings, Webinars and Technical Assistance

Workshop on Rural and Tribal Transportation Needs Funding

For helpful application strategies from a New Mexico perspective, DFA's Federal Grants Bureau welcomes you to a [workshop September 3 at 9am](#).

New Mexico's rural and tribal communities face unique challenges in accessing infrastructure resources. The RTAPP grant opportunity is designed to help bridge that gap by **providing planning, feasibility, and grant development support** to eligible local governments and tribal nations.

The workshop will cover:

- How New Mexico communities can apply for RTAPP support
- Examples of eligible transportation projects (roads, bridges, transit, and more)
- Program priorities and deadlines
- Guidance on how to strengthen your application

This session is especially valuable for:

- Tribal governments and planners
- Rural county and municipal officials
- Transportation and infrastructure stakeholders
- Economic development and planning organizations

This planning funding is available from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation.

[Register for workshop September 3 with DFA's Federal Grants Bureau](#)

Municipalities can access a comprehensive suite of expert support to apply for and implement grants — including pro-bono technical training through Bootcamps and Workshops.

[Bootcamp and Workshop Registrations](#)



NEW MEXICO Infrastructure Finance Conference

28th Annual NM Infrastructure Finance Conference set for November 3–7

The New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference (NMIFC), the state's premier gathering for infrastructure funding, planning, and collaboration, will be held November 3–7 at the Albuquerque Convention Center.

Building on the success of 2024's largest conference to date, the 2025 NMIFC promises to be an even more dynamic and impactful gathering for over 600 attendees. The five-day event will feature innovative sessions, hands-on workshops, networking opportunities, and collaborative discussions aimed at advancing infrastructure development across New Mexico.

Attendees will include infrastructure professionals, policymakers, engineers, tribal and local leaders, community advocates, and funding agencies, all working together to address New Mexico's most pressing infrastructure challenges and opportunities.

Registration Information

- Early Bird Registration – \$350 (through Friday, October 3)
- Regular Registration – \$400 (October 4 – October 27)
- Onsite Registration – \$450 (after October 27)

All participants are encouraged to complete the registration form to ensure access to the conference app, a personalized name badge, and conference materials.

Those wishing to attend can register at the conference website, www.nmifc.com.

About NMIFC

The NM Infrastructure Finance Conference is New Mexico's leading venue for connecting communities with funding opportunities and technical expertise to develop essential infrastructure. Each year, NMIFC brings together hundreds of participants from across the state to share strategies, resources, and success stories that strengthen New Mexico's future.



State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration Infrastructure Planning and Development Division



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